

Exemption Request to Use Enriched Grain Product(s)

Sponsor Name: Saint Mary Catholic School

Sponsor Number: 105

Enriched Product Description	Manufacturer Name	Manufacturer Number	Menu Item(s) Affected
<i>Example: Enriched Macaroni</i>	<i>XYZ Foods</i>	<i>55555</i>	<i>Mac and Cheese, Beef-a-Roni, Macaroni Salad</i>
Enriched Elbow Macaroni	Great Value		Mac and Cheese
Enriched Spaghetti	Great Value		Spaghetti
Enriched Rotini	Great Value		Alfredo
Pizza dough	Cici's Pizza		Pizza

Provide information regarding attempted use of whole grain-rich product(s). Describe efforts to use alternative products, recipes and/or cooking methods and the significant challenges experienced that demonstrate a negative impact. Include the number of portions of each item served previously and the number served when using whole grain-rich product(s).

Attach supporting documentation. Provide evidence of hardship(s), which may include but is not limited to point-of-service data or production records showing a significant drop in meal counts as a result of using whole grain-rich product(s), financial information showing a significant cost increase of whole grain-rich product(s), communication records showing limited product availability and/or documentation such as complaints or pictures that demonstrate unacceptable product quality, poor student acceptability or increased plate waste.

Cafeteria has experienced poor participation, waste, numerous complaints due to the usage of whole grain rich products. The Pizza, Pasta dishes, wheat tortilla, sandwich bread, rolls are everyday challenge to get students to purchase. There is also limited availability, and price increase when procuring whole grain, wheat products. Requesting waiver for any above item but particularly the Pizza, and Mac and Cheese, any pasta dish, in hopes to increase School lunch participation.
Warm regards,
Janice Seilhan, Cafeteria Manager

Approved By: *Richard Parks, MS, RD* State Agency Response * Denied By: _____ Date: *08/01/18*

1. Sponsors that are approved for an exemption from the current whole grain-rich requirement will be considered compliant with the whole grain-rich requirements during an Administrative Review if their grain offerings are consistent with the exemption granted and at least half of the grains offered weekly are whole grain-rich.
2. Waivers will be granted upon approval and expire June 30 of each school year. Sponsors seeking to renew the exemption must reapply each school year. The division will evaluate each request to determine if the circumstances stated in the request warrant an approval to use enriched grain products in accordance with USDA Policy Memo SP 18-2018 and SP 33-2016.

*Please allow two weeks for review.

Parks, Rick

Subject: FW: #105 St. Mary School Grain Waiver exemption request - Follow-up with Updated Form for 2018-2019
Attachments: 2018 Exemption Request to Use Enriched Grain Product(s) (1).docx

From: Janice Seilhan [redacted]
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 10:39 AM
To: Parks, Rick <R[redacted]>
Subject: Re: 105 Grain Waiver exemption request - Follow-up

Hi Rick,
Yes, we do use Cici's pizza.
Im looking into individual pizza slices and bake them ourselves.
Tony's has a really good cheese one.
As far as the wheat products go, students participation has dropped tremendously.
Another note, I would like to try the breakfast program for the upcoming year, would it be possible to try for the first semester of a school year to see how it does?
Or would we need to finish out the school year?
Do I just add it to our 18-19 application?

warm regards,
Janice

On Wed, May 9, 2018 at 11:58 AM, Parks, Rick <[redacted]> wrote:

From: Janice Seilhan [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, May 9, 2018 12:45 PM
To: Parks, Rick <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: 105 Grain Waiver exemption request - Follow-up

Good Morning Rick,
Appreciate the info you sent regarding the whole grains. **You are welcome**
Yes, I have been using the whole wheat for sandwiches, tortillas, even pasta dishes.
Cicis pizza uses the NSLP guidelines for our pizza weekly.
One of my issues is that, when I buy from US foods etc, they will not deliver unless I order 15 or more cases.
I use to use the local Flowers company for our bread but they dropped us because we were not ordering enough bread from them.
I usually purchase from local Walmart or Sam's. **Okay**
They sometimes do not have enough bread or the wheat pasta. So I make several trips sometimes.
I do whatever I can to save money and at the same time meet the NLSP.
If possible on the mac and cheese recipes, pizza get a waiver - **Just macaroni and cheese or any of the pasta related items? Nonetheless, yes on the waiver with main rationale for request being limited availability and poor participation/increased cost.**
The cheese doesn't mix well with the wheat pasta, its actually gross. The pizza is more expensive using the wheat flour, the kids do not like as much as the other. **Is this the Cici's Pizza?**

let me know if you have any other ideas or suggestions,

warm regards,

Janice

On Mon, May 7, 2018 at 9:52 AM, Parks, Rick <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Good morning Janice. I wanted to check-in with you to see if you have any additional questions or information requests I can help you with. Trust all is well with you. If I can help with any additional information for implementing grain-based menu changes, please let me know.

Best regards - Rick

From: Parks, Rick

Sent: Monday, April 2, 2018 1:49 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Davis, Chuck <[REDACTED]>; Lindsey, Torreya <[REDACTED]>

Subject: FW: exemption

Janice,

It has been a while since we have emailed – likely the last time was when Chuck and I were there for an Administrative Review that I was leading. He passed along your attached request. I appreciate your details in the explanation box. We will need some additional information though in the top sections to identify the grain/breads that are enriched that you are requesting to use in place of some of the whole grain items and the recipe(s) affected.

You have listed a lot of items. What items that are whole grain do students seem to like, if any? Do they like tortilla chips and corn chips (normally made with whole ground corn) for beef nachos, chili days, etc.? What about brown rice? Have seen any “whole white wheat” breads that are softer in texture that might be available? These can be used – if the price is good without an exemption request if each slice/bread serving contains 8 grams of whole grains per slice.

Have you tried some of the flat breads, pita, or sandwich type rounds for sandwiches?

<https://arnoldbread.com/products/sandwich-thinsreg-rolls/sandwich-thinsreg-rolls/100-whole-wheat> Something like this – at 43 grams – would count as 1.5 servings of a grain.

Are you using whole wheat buns for subs, hamburgers and hot dogs? Are these acceptable to students? I have attached some possible labels for some items. For the pizza, are you getting from a local pizza chain like Dominos, Pizza Hut, Little Caesars, etc., or are you making your (with frozen dough) or making from a frozen “school bake and serve” item?

We can continue to explore and evaluate your request and make adjustments as needed. Do you have menu plans online that I can look at or can you send me a set to look at?

All for now...call or email with any questions.

Thank you – Rick

From: Davis, Chuck

Sent: Monday, April 2, 2018 7:15 AM

To: Parks, Rick [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: exemption
From: Janice Seilhan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 11:17 AM
To: Davis, Chuck <[REDACTED]>
Subject: exemption

Hi Mr Davis,
I'm emailing a request for a wheat exemption. Would you please forward it to whom should receive it?

Janice Seilhan
Program Oversight Administrator Food Director
Saint Mary School
Fort Walton Beach, FL
[REDACTED]

Dedicated to Catholic values, Saint Mary Catholic School is a Christ-centered educational community committed to academic excellence, spiritual growth, individual responsibility, and service to others.

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Janice Seilhan
Program Oversight Administrator Food Director
Saint Mary School
Fort Walton Beach, FL
[REDACTED]

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Parks, Rick

From: Janice Seilhan <janice.seilhan@saintmaryschool.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 11:49 AM
To: Parks, Rick
Subject: Re: #105 St. Mary School Grain Waiver exemption request - Follow-up with Updated Form for 2018-2019

Hi Rick ,
Yes ,that is the Cici's pizza location we use on Mary Esther Cut off.
They use Whole Wheat flour on our pizza.
Also,as far as bread the kids seem to like the white wheat ,Sara Lee.

On Thu, Jul 12, 2018 at 7:52 AM, Parks, Rick <Richard.Parks@freshfromflorida.com> wrote:

Good morning Janice,

Is this the Cicis location you are working with? <https://www.cicis.com/locations/fl-fort-walton-beach-417d-mary-esther-cutoff> Have you confirmed the flour used in the pizza crust is made with enriched or whole grain flour? Your email below mentions following the USDA requirements. Can you provide some documentation or web link for this to support this information.

Are there any sandwich type grains – buns or bread that you need to add to your request or those items appear to be well received by students?

Looking at participation for some supporting data – if I researched this correctly, and not looking at enrollment increases/decreases, below is the listing of lunch claimed for the last three years August through June. Does this seem about right? I can check with Amy in our Claims section to confirm if needed.

'15-16 – 23,011 lunches

'16-17 – 18,365 lunches

'17-18 – 20,662 lunches

Rick